

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 1-16 stand rejected.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Office Action sets forth at page 2, paragraph 1, "Claims 1-16 are rejected as failing to define the invention in the manner required by 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph." The rejection of claim 1 is obviated by its cancellation. Applicant has amended claims 2-16 and respectfully submits that these amendments overcome the objection set forth in the Office Action at page 2.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103

The Office Action sets forth at page 3, paragraph 2, "Claims 1-3, 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over ES Patent No. 1,052,733 in view of ES Patent No. 1,051,839." Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is overcome by the amendments to the claims for the reasons set forth below.

Applicant has cancelled claim 1 and has rewritten claim 4 into independent form in view of a lack of any prior art cited against claim 4. Applicant respectfully submits therefore that claim 4 is allowable.

Claims 2, 3, 5-16 to depend either directly or indirectly on allowable claim 4 and, thus, are likewise allowable.

Applicant has added claim 17. Basis for this claim may be found in applicant's specification as originally filed. Applicant submits that this claim does not introduce new matter.

Claim 17 includes features not disclosed nor suggested by the combination of the cited references, namely:

... an arm having a first end and a second end, the first end of the arm including a securing portion adapted for coupling to the fixed support member, the second end of the arm including a surrounding wall portion adapted for articulation ...

... a forearm having a first end and a second end, the first end of the forearm including a core portion adapted for articulation and coupled to the second end of the arm, the core portion having an orifice extending at least partially through the core portion in a direction transverse to a longitudinal direction of the forearm, the second end of the forearm including a portion adapted for articulation and coupling to the load bar, and the surrounding wall portion of the arm at least partially disposed around the core portion ...

... an elastic element disposed within the arm and secured to a predetermined location on the arm ...

... a flexible pulling element disposed within the arm, the flexible pulling element having a first end coupled to the elastic element and a second end coupled to the core portion of the forearm ...

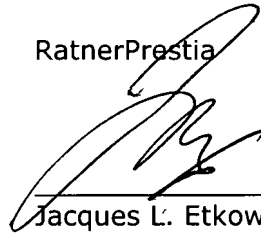
...bearing means disposed between the core and said surrounding wall, and coaxial with the orifice to guide rotation of the surrounding wall portion relative to the core portion and to support the forearm on the arm.

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 17 is allowable over the cited prior art and respectfully requests that claim 17 be passed to allowance.

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, applicant submits that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

RatnerPrestia



Jacques L. Etkowicz, Reg. No. 41,738
Attorney for Applicant

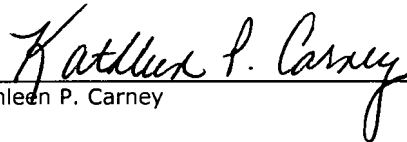
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P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 7, 2007.



Kathleen P. Carney